

Remarks

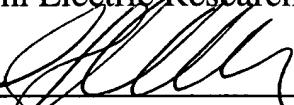
Claims 1-9 are pending. Claims 1-8 are allowed. Claim 9 is objected to.

The Applicants respectfully assert that grammatical rules for proper English mandate that each item in a disjunctive list is singular. Therefore, Applicants' previous claim 9, using the singular word "claim," is correct as was written.

However, as noted by the Examiner in a telephone conversation in April 2005, the MPEP shows the plural "claims" used in conjunction with items in a disjunctive list. The grammatical error in the MPEP is noted by the Applicants. However, claim 9 is amended herein according to the Examiner's suggestion, in order to expedite allowance of the present application.

All rejections have been complied with, and applicant respectfully submits that the application is now in condition for allowance. The applicant urges the Examiner to contact the applicant's attorney at phone and address indicated below if assistance is required to move the present application to allowance. Please charge any shortages in fees in connection with this filing to Deposit Account 50-0749.

Respectfully submitted,
Mitsubishi Electric Research Laboratory Inc.

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